



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FTA 2022-0036]

Agency Information Collection Activity under OMB Review: Bus Testing Program

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces that the Information Collection Requirements (ICRs) abstracted below have been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describe the nature of the information collection and their expected burdens.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]**.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review - Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

Comments are Invited On: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. A comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication of this notice in the *Federal Register*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tia Swain, Office of Administration,

Management Planning Division, 1200 New Jersey Avenue., SE., Mail Stop TAD-10, Washington, DC 20590 (202) 366-0354 or tia.swain@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), Pub. L. No. 104-13, section 2, 109 Stat. 163 (1995) (codified as revised at 44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR part 1320, require Federal agencies to issue two notices seeking public comment on information collection activities before OMB may approve paperwork packages. 44 U.S.C. 3506, 3507; 5 CFR 1320.5, 1320.8(d)(1), 1320.12. On August 24, 2022, FTA published a 60-day notice (87 FR 52210) in the *Federal Register* soliciting comments on the ICR that the agency was seeking OMB approval. FTA received no comments after issuing this 60-day notice. Accordingly, DOT announces that these information collection activities have been re-evaluated and certified under 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and forwarded to OMB for review and approval pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12(c). Before OMB decides whether to approve these proposed collections of information, it must provide 30 days for public comment. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b); 5 CFR 1320.12(d). Federal law requires OMB to approve or disapprove paperwork packages between 30 and 60 days after the 30-day notice is published. 44 U.S.C. 3507 (b)-(c); 5 CFR 1320.12(d); *see also* 60 FR 44978, 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. OMB believes that the 30-day notice informs the regulated community to file relevant comments and affords the agency adequate time to digest public comments before it renders a decision. 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. Therefore, respondents should submit their respective comments to OMB within 30 days of publication to best ensure having their full effect. 5 CFR 1320.12(c); *see also* 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995.

The summaries below describe the nature of the information collection requirements (ICRs) and the expected burden. The requirements are being submitted for clearance by OMB as required by the PRA.

Title: Bus Testing Program.

OMB Control Number: 2132-0550.

Background:

49 U.S.C. section 5318(a) provides that Federal funds appropriated or otherwise made available under 49 U.S.C. chapter 53 [FTA funding] may not be obligated or expended for the acquisition of a new bus model unless a bus of that model has been tested for maintainability, reliability, safety, performance (including braking performance), structural integrity, fuel economy, emissions, and noise.

At this time, there is one active Bus Testing Center operated by the Thomas D. Larson Pennsylvania Transportation Institute of the Pennsylvania State University (LTI). LTI operates and maintains the Center under a cooperative agreement with FTA and establishes and collects fees for the testing of the vehicles at the facility. Upon completion of the testing of the vehicle at the Center with a passing test score, a draft Bus Testing Report is provided to the manufacturer of the new bus model. If the manufacturer approves the Report for publication, the bus model becomes eligible for FTA funding. 49 CFR 665.7 requires a recipient of FTA funds to certify that a bus model has been tested at the bus testing facility, that the bus model received a passing score, and that the recipient has a copy of the applicable Bus Testing Report(s) on a bus model before final acceptance of any buses of that model. Recipients are strongly encouraged to review the Bus Testing Report(s) relevant to a bus model before final acceptance and/or selection of that bus model.

Respondents: Bus manufacturers and recipients of FTA funds.

Estimated Annual Number of Responses: 60.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 2,131 hours.

Frequency: On occasion.

Nadine Pembleton,
Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Administration

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